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INDIA.

Reports from Bombay—Sanitary commissioner appointed.

Acting Asst. Surg. Edward H. Hume reports, October 7, as follows: Maj. J. T. W. Leslie, M. B., of the Indian Medical Service, has been appointed as the first imperial sanitary commissioner with the government of India. The following paragraph from the government resolution sets forth their attitude:

The governor-general in council has, with the sanction of His Majesty's Government, determined upon the appointment of a separate sanitary commissioner with the government of India. His advice will be of value not only in settling, in consultation with the local governments and administrations, the principles on which an advance should be made, but also in giving effect to those principles, with due regard to local conditions and popular prepossessions. * * * But the sanitary commissioner's work will also have another and an equally important side, the organization and direction of research throughout India, which will steadily increase with the progress of the scheme already sanctioned for the establishment, on lines similar to those recommended by the plague commission, of fully equipped institutes for the study of health problems in India.

This scheme provides for a central laboratory devoted mainly to original research of a general character, and the manufacture of antivenene and certain curative sera. In each of the larger provinces there will be a provincial laboratory, the primary functions of which will be to conduct diagnosis and special research connected with local conditions. One of these, the laboratory at Parel, will also carry on the manufacture of plague prophylactic. If the scheme is to be efficiently worked and to produce results which will justify the expenditure incurred upon it, the whole body of institutions which it comprises must be under the control of a competent sanitary expert, who can supervise, organize, and coordinate the work.

Report from Calcutta—Inspection and fumigation of vessel—Cholera and plague mortality.

Acting Assistant Surgeon Eakins reports, October 6, as follows:

During the week ended October 1, 1904, bill of health was issued to the steamship *Rabenfels*, bound to Boston and New York, with a total crew of 51. The usual precautions were taken, Lascars' effects were fumigated, rat guards were placed on wharf lines, and cargo compartments fumigated.

During the week ended October 1, 1904, there were 3 deaths from plague and no deaths from cholera in Calcutta.

In Bengal during the week ended September 24, 1904, there were 350 cases and 305 deaths from plague.

In India during the week ended September 17, 1904, there were 14,029 cases and 10,671 deaths from plague.

ITALY.

Reports from Naples—Inspection of vessels—Infectious diseases in Italy and other countries—Quarantine—Ankylostomiasis in Germany—Plague on the steamship Bishopsgate in the River Tyne.

Passed Assistant Surgeon Eager reports, October 10 and 17, as follows:

During the week ended October 8, 1904, the following ships were inspected at Naples and Palermo: